through the State Channelising Agencies (SCAs) nominated by respective State Governments. The SCA of Tamil Nadu has disbursed following amounts released by the NBCFDC during last 5 years:

Year	Amt. Disbursed	No. of Beneficiaries
1996-97	Rs. 607.44 lakh	1535
1997-98	-	-
1998-99	Rs 641.54 lakh	2205
1999-00	Rs. 401.37 lakh	1330
2000-01	Rs. 276.24 lakh	837

Illegal Adoption Centres in the Country

1591. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that illegal adoption centres are being run in various parts of the country;

(b) whether Government propose to consider to restrict the illegal adoption and child trafficking;

(c) if so, the action proposed to be taken against the illegal adoption and the centres thereon;

(d) whether Government will consider to amend the Juvenile Justice Act for making more effective measures to restrict illegal adoption and to avoid the complication and confusion existing in child adoption and to impose stringent punishment for promoting illegal adoption and adoption centres; and

(e) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYA NARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (e) While the Ministry has not received reports of illegal adoption centres being run in various parts of the country, action is taken against

agencies found to be indulging in irregularities. The Ministry has also advised all State Governments for mandatory licensing of all orphanages and agencies and monitoring of adoption activities so that only licensed and recognized agencies undertake adoption activities in order to prevent illegal adoptions and trafficking of children. Such incidents are to be prevented by State Governments through strict enforcement of relevant laws. With a view to further streamlining various procedures, the Juvenile Justice Act, 1986 has been replaced by the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 which has come into force with effect from 01-042001.

Action Plan for Implementation of NPOP

1592. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have, so far, formulated any National Policy on Older Persons (NPOP) to provide a legitimate place to them in the society;

(b) if so, which nodal agency has been assigned the job to implement the same;

(c) whether any plan of action during 2001-2005 chalked out under NPOP and any dialogue/consultation held with the representatives of the senior citizens to identity their problems/ grievances with the view to redressing them; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYA NARAYAN JATIYA): (a) Yes, Sir. A National Policy on Older Persons (NPOP) was formulated in January, 1999.

(b) This Ministry coordinates the implementation of NPOP with the concerned Ministries/Departments of the Central Government and all the State Governments as well as the NGOs and Self-help groups.

(c) Yes, Sir. An Action Plan for implementation of NPOP during